

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA)
)
 v.) CRIM. CASE NO. 1:19-cr-230-ECM
)
 JAREECE EDWARD BLACKMON)

The Act excludes, however, certain delays from the seventy-day period, including delays based on “findings that the ends of justice served by taking such action outweigh the best interest of the public and the defendant in a speedy trial.” 18 U.S.C. § 3161(h)(7)(A). In determining whether to continue trial pursuant to § 3161(h)(7), the Court “shall consider,” among other factors, whether denial of a continuance would likely “result

in a miscarriage of justice,” or “would deny counsel for the defendant . . . the reasonable time necessary for effective preparation, taking into account the exercise of due diligence.” § 3161(h)(7)(B)(i), (iv).

Due to persistent issues related to COVID-19 in Alabama, the anticipated length of the trial, and the numerous witnesses that are expected to testify, coupled with the recent initiation of COVID-19 vaccinations, the Court concludes that the ends of justice served by continuing this trial outweigh the best interest of the public and the Defendant in a speedy trial. In addition, there remains pending a motion to appoint counsel which could impact trial preparation in this complex case which includes a charge of murder. Thus, for good cause, it is

ORDERED that jury selection and trial are CONTINUED from March 8, 2021 to the criminal term of court commencing on **April 26, 2021** at 10:00 a.m. in Montgomery, Alabama.¹ All deadlines tied to the trial date are adjusted accordingly.

The United States Magistrate Judge shall conduct a pretrial conference prior to the April trial term.

Done this 16th day of February, 2021.

/s/Emily C. Marks
EMILY C. MARKS
CHIEF UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

¹ The parties previously agreed to try the case in Montgomery and to select the jury from the Northern Division.